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component at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a rare earth thioaluminate, a rare earth thiogallate and a rare earth thioindate, and is different from the rare earth element used for the matrix material.

Page 6, please replace the paragraph at lines 24-32 as follows:

Rare earth elements exist in the stable form of sulfides and selenides, and are more stable and more resistant to humidity and oxidation than compounds such as BaS and SrS which occur at intermediate steps of the process of preparing conventional thioaluminates, thiogallates and thioindates of alkaline earth elements such as Ba, Sr and Ca. For this reason, the rare earth elements are less susceptible to contamination at a fluorescent thin film preparation step, and can yield a fluorescent thin film of higher quality than ever before.

Page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 3-5 as follows:

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The rare earth thioaluminate, the rare earth thiogallate, the rare earth thioindate, and the rare earth thioselenate should preferably be represented by the following composition formula:

Page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 25-35 as follows:

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Preferable, but not exclusive, selenides are a rare earth selenaluminate or $R_xAl_ySe_z$ where R is any one of Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Gd, Tb, Ho, Er, Tm and Lu, and x, y and z are each an integer and may be identical with or different from one another, a rare earth selenagallate or $R_xGa_ySe_z$ where R is any one of Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Gd, Tb, Ho, Er, Tm and Lu, and x, y and z are each an integer and may be identical with or different from one another, and a rare earth selenaindate or $R_xIn_ySe_z$ where R is any one of Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Gd, Tb, Ho, Er, Tm and Lu, and x, y and z are each an integer and may be identical with or different from one another.

Page 8, please replace the paragraph at lines 8-15 as follows:

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By evaporation, the rare earth metal and aluminum sulfide are allowed to react with each other on a substrate to obtain a thioaluminate thin film. While the invention is herein explained mainly with reference to the rare earth thioaluminate, it is understood that group III sulfides such as gallium sulfide and indium sulfide may be used to obtain thiogallate and thioindate. For accelerated sulfurization, it is preferable to use hydrogen sulfide ($H_{sub}2S$) as a sulfur supply source.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as shown on the following sheet: